Himachal Pradesh	4
J & K	1
Karnataka	5
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	7
Maharashtra	6
Orissa	3
Pondicherry (Union Territory)	1
Punjab	2
Rajasthan	5
Tamilnadu	7
Uttar Pradesh	9
West Bengal	4
Gujarat	5
	82

L.P.G. Agencies

2152. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the total number of L.P.G. agencies in the country and also their number in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): As on 1.1.1992 there were 4009 LPG distributorships in the country. The number of LPG agencies in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras is as follows:—

Bombay	131
Delhi	215
Calcutta	110
Madras	97

L.P.G. Agency in Patwadanagar, Nainital

2153. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tht the residents of the Patwadanagar area in Nainital, Uttar Pradesh have represented for opening of an L.P.G. agency in Patwadanagar; and

(b) if so, by when a L.P.Gas agency is likely to be opened there and at what stage of consideration the representation of the residents lies at present?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Representations are received from time to time for opening of LPG agencies in different places of the country including those in U.P. The Oil Companies on the basis of the market survey, economic viability and product availability include such places in their marketing plans.

Contract regarding off shore Drilling

2154. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be Pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC have given contracts to m/s Jagson International (P) Limited, Delhi, for offshore drilling;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ONGC did not float tenders for the drilling;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not fleating the tenders; and

(d) the progress made by the firm in off-shore drilling?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) ONGC had given contracts to M/s Jagson International for charter hire of a drillship and two jack up rigs.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) On completion of drilling as per the contracts the drillship was dehired in May, 1991 and the, jack up rigs in December, 1991 and January, 1992.

Refused For Supply of Petroleum Products by the Soviet Government

@2155. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Soviet Government has refused to supply the petroleum products to India in Indian currency;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for their refusal; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the requirement of petroleum products?

@Previously Unstarred Question 767, transferred from the 3rd March, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Recently, Indo-Russian Protocol on trade turn over and payments in 1992 has been signed which envisages import of crude oil and petroleum products from Russia with the provision for payment in Indian rupees.

Refuelling facility at the airports

*2156. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to review its existing policy for providing refuelling facility at the Airports in the country; and

(b) is so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Refuelling facilities are provided at airports if considered necessary and taking economic viability consideration into account. A total of 74 airports, in the country are having such refueling facilities.

अनुसूचित जातियों / अनुसूचित जनजातियों के व्यक्तियों को गैस एजेंसियां

2157. **श्री राम अवधेश सिंह:** क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री 4 दिसम्बर, 1991 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1273 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने याचिका समिति को बसे रसोई गैस धारकों की सूची दी थी जिनकी एजेंसियां तेल कम्पनियों द्वारा बिना "कारण बताओ नाटिस" दिये रद् कर दी गयी थीं;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि ऐसी एजेंसियों की संख्या एक सौ से अधिक थी; और

(ग) क्या सरकार उसी आधार पर जिस आधार पर मैसर्स जैश्री इन्टरप्राइजिज और छः अन्य फर्मों को एजेंसियां बहाल की गई हैं, उक्त एजेंसियों को बहाल करने का विचार रखती है और यदि हां, तो कब तक?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री बी॰ शंकरानन्द): (क) से (ग) दिनांक 12.5.89 की याचिका समिति की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया था कि 1983-84 से 1987-88 के बीच 62 एल॰पी॰जी॰ एजेंसियां निरस्त की गई थीं इनमें से 6 मामलों को फिर से बहाल कर दिया गया है।

Gas Flaring Reduction Projects

2158. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to commission gas flaring reduction projects at all gas flaring wells;

(b) if so, by when all the gas flaring reduction projects are likely to be commissioned and the target of zero level achieved; and

(c) the extent to which the indigenous demand of gas in likely to be met as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Projects for reducing the flaring of gas have been undertaken in the Western off shore region, in Gujarat and in Assam. Flaring is expected to be reduced to minimum levels by 1995. The current level of flaring is approximately 11 million cubic metres per day.

Gas Terminal at Usar

2159. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have requested for second gas terminal at Usar; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

*Previously Unstarred Question 754, transferred from the 3rd March, 1992.